



County of Los Angeles CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICE

Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration
500 West Temple Street, Room 713, Los Angeles, California 90012
(213) 974-1101
<http://ceo.lacounty.gov>

WILLIAM T FUJIOKA
Chief Executive Officer

August 11, 2008

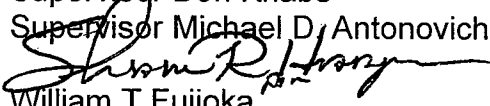
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To: Supervisor Yvonne B. Burke, Chair
Supervisor Gloria Molina
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Supervisor Michael D. Antonovich
From: 
William T Fujioka
Chief Executive Officer

HOMELESS OLDER ADULTS STRATEGIC PLAN RECOMMENDATIONS TO SOLVE HOMELESSNESS FOR OLDER ADULTS

The purpose of this memo is to provide a status update and to request a 30-day extension in responding to the June 10, 2008 motion by Supervisor Yvonne B. Burke, related to the feasibility of implementing recommendations designed to solve the problem of homelessness for 3,000 to 4,000 older adults, 62 years of age and older, in Los Angeles County. The motion addressed the six recommendations included in Shelter Partnership, Inc.'s *Homeless Older Adults Strategic Plan (Plan)*, and instructed our office, in conjunction with the Community Development Commission (CDC), and the Departments of Community and Senior Services (DCSS), Mental Health (DMH), Public Health (DPH), and Public Social Services (DPSS) to report back within 60 days on the feasibility of implementing the recommendations; identifying possible funding sources for the recommendations requiring County funding; targeting potential technical changes to departmental programs and procurement policies that would facilitate the implementation of recommendations; and delineating any opportunities for collaboration and cooperation among County departments supportive of implementation of the *Plan* recommendations.

The *Plan* advocates for ending homelessness among older adults in Los Angeles County through coordinated efforts leading to the development of affordable housing, the bolstering of income levels among seniors, and the continued provision of the types of social services that County health and human services departments currently have in place. Los Angeles County departments have already taken initial steps to proactively address the needs of this target population by:

- Establishing the Seamless Senior Services Initiative, under the leadership of our office and DCSS, to identify all existing programs and resources to create a seamless senior services delivery model;

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- Expanding the Assisted Living Waiver Pilot Project's eligibility criteria, from just being applicable to those individuals who are low-income, Medi-Cal eligible and in need of the level of care provided by a nursing facility, to include homeless older adults;
- Executing a contract between CDC and Shelter Partnership for the development of a proposal that would make homeless frail and elderly adults eligible for City of Industry Funding, which helps fund affordable rental housing for special needs populations;
- Collaborating with the Mental Health Services Act (MHSA) Housing Trust Fund Advisory Board and DMH's Older Adults Bureau to stimulate interest among mental health providers and developers to access MHSA Housing Program funding opportunities for building permanent and supportive housing for older adults and homeless older adults; and
- Developing a County Homeless Services Integration Plan, through the collaborative efforts of our office and County health and human services departments that will focus on strengthening the infrastructure of the County's homeless services continuum, including homeless older adults as an underserved population. The completion of the Homeless Services Integration Plan is targeted for the first quarter of 2009.

In order to adequately address the various components of the *Plan's* six recommendations within the framework of your Board's direction, additional time is needed. Our office will incorporate findings into a report for your Board no later than September 30, 2008.

If you have any questions or need additional information, please let me know; or your staff may contact Garrison Smith at (213) 974-4673, or via e-mail at gsmith@ceo.lacounty.gov.

WTF:MS:KH
GLS:BBT:hn

c: Executive Officer, Board of Supervisors
Community Development Commission
Department of Community and Senior Services
Department of Mental Health
Department of Public Health
Department of Public Social Services

Response to HOASP Motion-Board Memo